



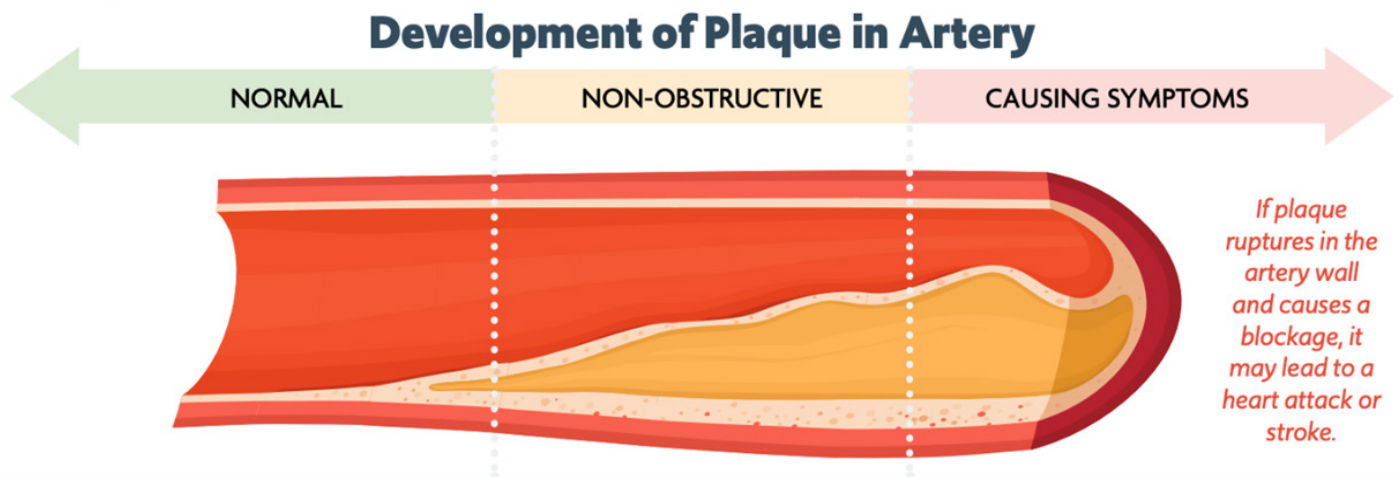
EZETIMIBE

What is ezetimibe?

Several medications can help lower low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C). The most commonly prescribed medications are statins. When patients have very high levels of LDL-C, or have atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, they may need additional medications to help further lower their LDL-C. This is when ezetimibe may be prescribed. It is a prescription medication that works in your gut to help block absorption of cholesterol from your diet.

Why should you lower LDL cholesterol (LDL-C)?

Elevated levels of LDL-C are a risk factor for developing heart disease. LDL-C can accumulate in the walls of the arteries and create atherosclerosis (plaque), which may result in a heart attack or stroke.



How is ezetimibe taken?

Ezetimibe is a prescription medication that comes as a pill, taken once a day with or without food. Ezetimibe can be taken at the same time as most other medications.

Which patients might take ezetimibe?

1. Patients who can't take statins due to side effects or other reasons.
2. Patients who are taking a statin, but need to lower their LDL-C more.

Adding ezetimibe to statin therapy has been shown to reduce LDL-C, arterial plaque, and cardiovascular events in research studies. Typically, ezetimibe lowers LDL-C by an additional 15-20% beyond statin therapy.

What to expect when starting ezetimibe?

Ezetimibe has few side effects. Your healthcare provider may order blood work before starting ezetimibe and will ask you to repeat these in a few months to monitor your blood levels of cholesterol.